

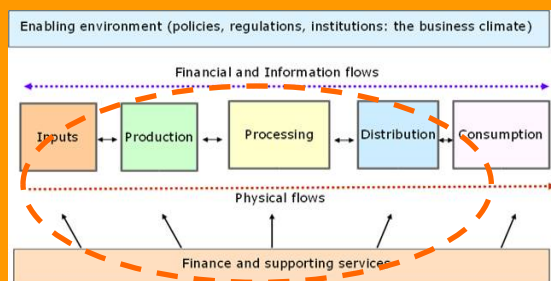
Beyond large-scale land acquisitions ...

Agrarian transformations and the corporization and financiarization of agriculture

Ward ANSEEUW & Antoine DUCASTEL

'Large-scale land acquisitions' - top of the iceberg of wider dynamics, diverting attention from a dynamics of control over land-based activities/ production and profound agrarian change

Present dynamics based on the integration of the entire production cycle



-Integration of primary production / finance in an overall cycle

➡ The Finance-Value-Chain

-Spreading the risks / no collateral / A reversal of the risk-profit relationship within the production chain

New actors / New production and investment models

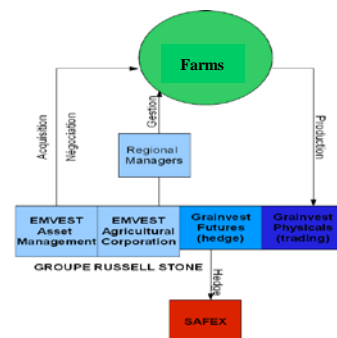
Commercial banks engagement in primary agricultural production



Agricultural engineering/ management companies



Investment/equity funds



Based on a South African case-study – but models are extending fast on the African continent

Present dynamics - More than land loss and food security issues through large-scale land acquisitions

➡ **Profound restructuring of agrarian societies**

- * **Financiarization and corporization of agriculture:** New productive agricultural models and redefinition of orthodox frontiers of the agricultural sector (led by external actors to the sector)
- * **Deregulation and foreign powers:** Private norms and control over agricultural regulation mechanisms; Foreign economic powers' control - emphasizing food sovereignty issues
- * **Concentration and dualisation within the sector:** Dominion of few large international groups (commercial banks, asset management companies)
- * **Socio-Professional implications:** Marginalization in the decision making process for communities and independent family (small scale and large scale) farmers - Proletarianisation, farmers become 'service provider' or rent seekers - The end of the peasant?

References: DUCASTEL, A. & ANSEEUW, W. (2011). «Production grabbing » and the transnationalisation of (South) Africa's agriculture. Transcontinentales, No10/11, <http://transcontinentales.revues.org/1080>.